

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 6183

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, CH, TW

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT YEN AND PREMIER CHIANG CALL FOR RECOVERY OF THE
MAINLAND

1. A SEPTEMBER 10 UPI DISPATCH CARRIED IN THE SEPTEMBER 11
CHINA NEWS ONLY QUOTED OFFICIAL SOURCES AS SAYING THAT THE PREMIER
HAD DECIDED THAT MAO TSE-TUNG NOT BE OFFICIALLY CONDEMNED, NO
GOVERNMENT COMMUNIQUE BE ISSUED, AND NO GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL
BE ALLOWED TO ATTACK MAO SOON AFTER HIS DEATH. HOWEVER, IN THE
PAST FEW DAYS BOH PRESIDENT YEN AND THE PREMIER HAVE MADE
STATEMENTS CALLING FOR RECOVERY OF THE MAINLAND AND, AT
LEAST IN THE PREMIER'S ADDRESS, ATTACKING MAO.

2. PRESIDENT YEN, IN A SEPTEMBER 10 ADDRESS TO TOP-RANKING
MILITARY OFFICIALS, SAID THAT FOLLOWING MAO'S DEATH THE MAIN-
LAND WAS FACING A PERIOD OF CONFUSION AND TURMOIL AND URGED
THE ARMED FORCES TO "REDOUBLE OUR EFFORTS AND ACHIEVE OUR
OBJECTIVES." HE ALSO URGED THE MILITARY TO FULFILL THE WILL
OF PRESIDENT CHIANG KAI-SHEK.

3. PREMIER CHIANG, IN A SEPTEMBER 11 MESSAGE ISSUED IN HIS
CAPACITY OF KMT CENTRAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, CALLED ON
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MAINLAND COMPATRIOTS TO RISE UP AND OVERTHROW THE COMMUNIST

REGIME ON THE MAINLAND. "AT THIS PIVOTAL JUNCTURE OF GREAT CHANGE," THE PREMIER SAID, "THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF THE KMT... IS TO RECOVER THE MAINLAND AND TO LIBERATE OUR COMPATRIOTS THERE; THE UNDAUNTED SPIRIT OF THE KMT LIES IN ITS INSISTENCE ON THE FULFILLMENT OF NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE, EQUALITY OF THE PEOPLE'S RIGHTS, AND THE HAPPINESS AND WELL-BEING OF THE PEOPLE"; AND "THE UNWAVERING BELIEF OF THE KMT IS IN THE SUCCESS OF MAINLAND RECOVERY AND THE VICTORY OF FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY."

4. CALLING ON MAINLAND COMPATRIOTS TO WORK CONCERTEDLY WITH THE ROC TO ELIMINATE "THE MAO THOUGHT WITHOUT MAO, THE MAO SYSTEM WITHOUT MAO, AND THE MAO TYRANNY WITHOUT MAO," THE PREMIER SAID THAT "WE WILL PROVIDE RAPID SUPPORT AND REINFORCEMENT BY AIR, FROM THE SEA, AND FROM BEHIND THE ENEMY LINES TO ALL ANTI-COMMUNIST REVOLUTIONARY ACTIONS ON THE MAINLAND. WE WILL PROVIDE ADEQUATE RECEPTION AND PROTECTION FROM OUR BASES, THE SENTRY FRONTS, AND FROM OVERSEAS TO EVERY FREEDOM SEEKER."

5. COMMENT: THE PREMIER'S ADDRESS APPEARS TO BE AIMED AT LEAST AS MUCH TO MAINLANDERS ON TAIWAN AS TO THOSE ON THE MAINLAND AND IS DESIGNED TO DEMONSTRATE TO THOSE AT HOME THAT THE ROC STANDS READY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE CHANGING SITUATION ON THE MAINLAND. BUT THE ADDRESS, AS IN THE PAST, CAREFULLY RELEGATES ROC ACTION IN "RECOVERY" OF THE MAINLAND TO A SUPPORTIVE ROLE, AVOIDING ANY SUGGESTION THAT THE ROC WOULD TAKE THE LEAD IN MILITARY ACTION AGAINST THE PRC.

6. IN WHAT MAY BE ANOTHER DEVELOPMENT RELATED TO MAO'S DEATH, PASSING MENTION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO A VERY RECENT CHANGE IN THE VIDEO ACCOMPANIMENT TO THE ROC NATIONAL ANTHEM AIRED ON TELEVISION HERE. THE LATE PRESIDENT CHIANG WAS THE PROMINENT FIGURE IN THE OLD VERSION, WHILE IN THE NEW VERSION HE IS RELEGATED (ALONG WITH PARTY FOUNDER SUN YAT-SEN) TO A SYMBOLIC POSITION, WITH PRESIDENT YEN AND THE PREMIER SHARING THE LIMELIGHT. FOR TAIWAN, IT WOULD SEEM, THE ERA OF FIRST GENERATION LEADERSHIP IN THE CHINESE POST-DYNASTIC PERIOD IS ENDING.

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